

DEVELOPMENT OF MUSICAL ABILITIES

**Prof Dr Daniel Müllensiefen (Goldsmiths,
University of London)**

THE LONGGOLD PROJECT

- Assessing
 - Musical abilities (melodic memory, beat perception, intonation, etc.) with adaptive IRT-based tests
 - Cognitive skills (IQ, memory)
 - Personality
 - Attitudes, mental well-being, social skills
 - Musical and leisure activities
- 7 years
- Secondary schools in UK, Germany,

WHY

- Causal factors driving musical development
- Who will take up music seriously? (Who will give it up again?)
- Transfer effects from
 - music => other domains
 - Other domains => music
- Is music special when compared to sports and theatre activities?

HOW





- Start 2015 (UK), 2018 (Germany)
- Outline and first results: Müllensiefen et al. (2015)
- Browser-based test interface under supervision in class rooms
- Online data collection and processing

ORIGINAL RESEARCH ARTICLE

Front. Psychol., 05 November 2015 | <http://dx.doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2015.01702>



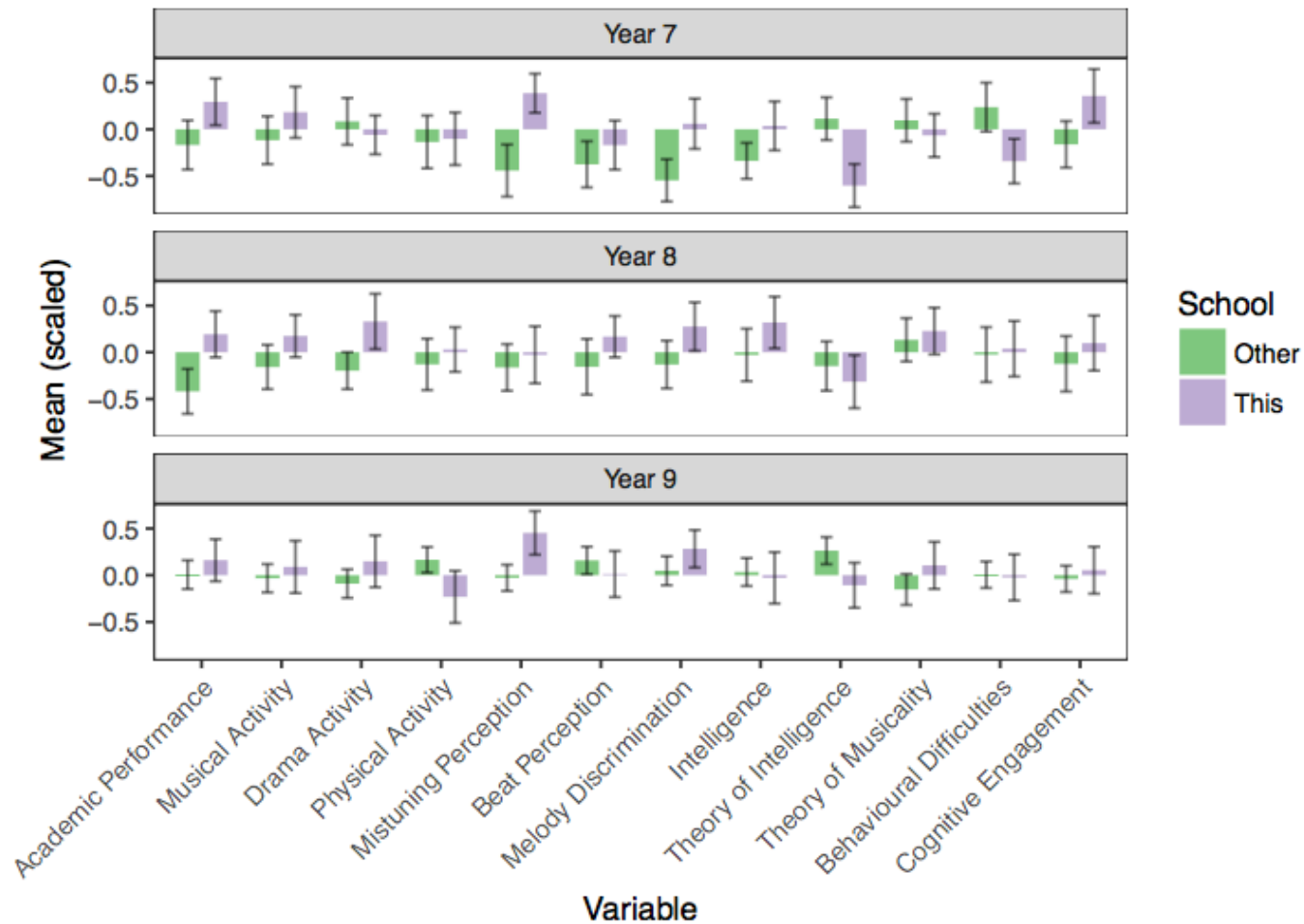
Investigating the importance of self-theories of intelligence and musicality for students' academic and musical achievement

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INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL REPORTS



ONLINE DATA ANALYSIS REPOSITORY

[LONGGOLD visualisation](#)

[Univariate distributions](#)

[Bivariate distributions](#)

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Variable 1

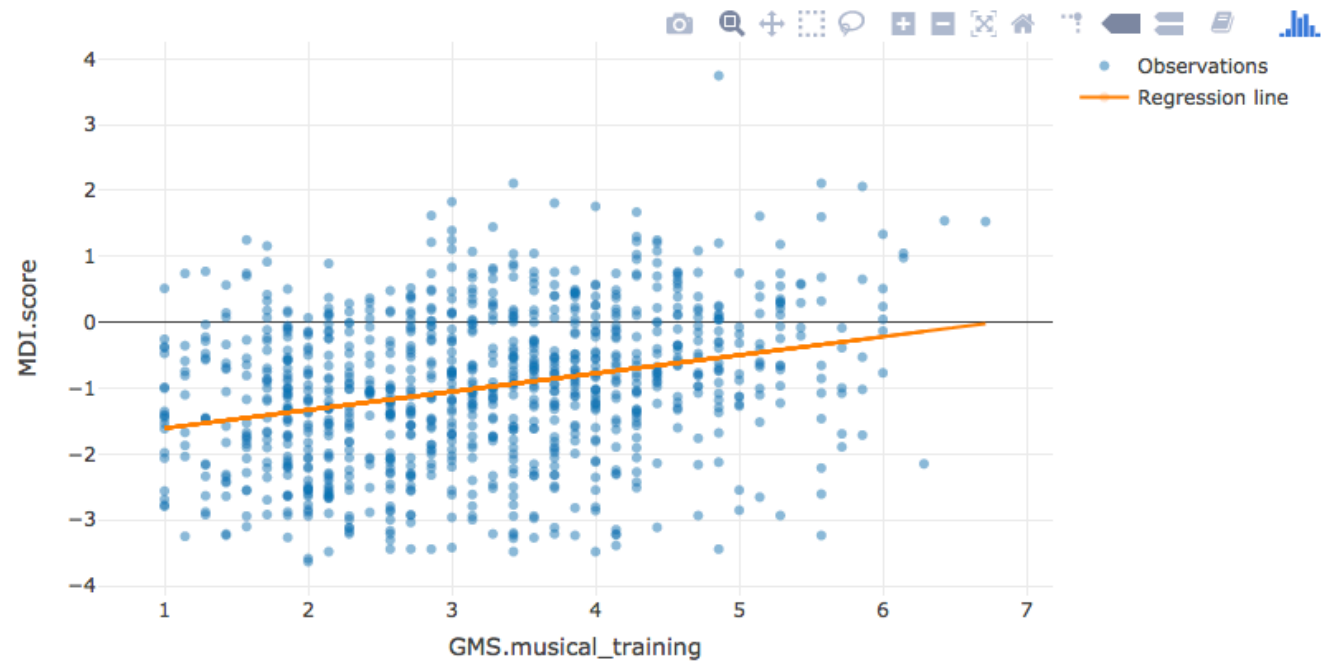
GMS.musical_training

Variable 2

MDI.score

Note: error bars correspond to one standard error of the mean.

$r = 0.2891369$, $p = 4.665171e-20$



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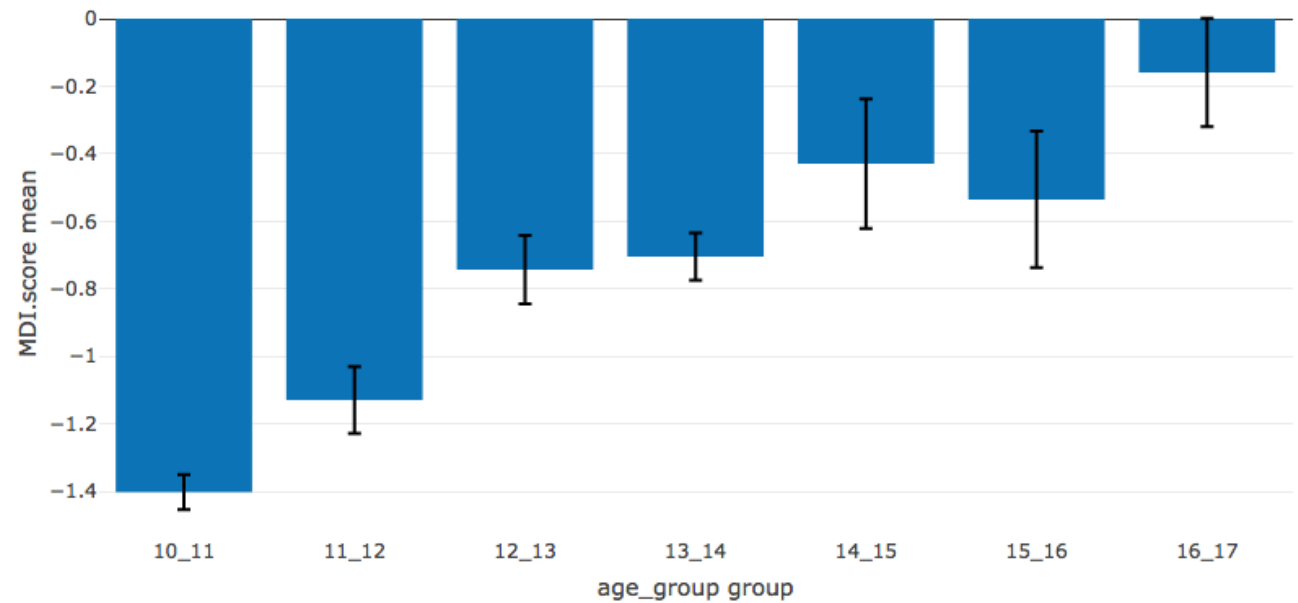
Variable 1

age_group

Variable 2

MDI.score

Note: error bars correspond to one standard error of the mean.



NEXT STEPS

Grow the project

- Attract more funding (Leverhulme, ESRC, German Academy of Science)
- Work more closely with non-academic project partners (BrainCanDo, The Children's Society)
- Recruit more schools
- Analyse data in detail
- Disseminate results

THE PEOPLE WHO MAKE IT HAPPEN

UK branch (since 2015):

Amy Fancourt

Peter Harrison

Zaariyah Bashir

Nicolas Ruth

David Baker

German branch since 2017/18):

Klaus Frieler

Reinhard Kopiez

Viola Pausch

Daniel Fiedler

Miriam Eisinger



Alexander von Humboldt
Stiftung/Foundation